GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
CIVIL AVIATION
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3733
ANSWERED ON:17.04.2008
HELICOPTER SERVICES
Dhanaraju Dr. K.

Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether helicopter services especially in the activities of tourism and adventure sports in the country has improved compared to the last three years;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether helicopers are to be pressed into service to cater to the short distance fliers;

(d) if so, the details thereof;

(e) whether any study has been made to improve tourism by deploying more helicopters in the country; and

(f) if so, the details and the guidelines issued by the Government in this regard?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE (INDEPENDENT CHARGE) OF THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION(SHRI PRAFUL PATEL)

(a) and (b):- At present, Pawan Hans Helicopters Ltd. (PHHL) is providing helicopter on the long term lease to Govt. of Meghalaya,Sikkim,Arunachal Pradesh,Tripura,Nagaland, Andaman and Nicobar Island,and Lakshadweep Administration.The regular passenger services are being run under the ageis of the respective State Govts./Administrations as per their requirements.PHHL also provides helicopters to private parties during Amarnath Dham yatra season.PHHL has been recently awarded the contract by Shri Mata Vaishnodevi Shrine Board of deployment of 2 Bell helicopter for running passenger services on Katra-Sanjichhat-Katra sector.Pawan Hans Helicopters Ltd.(PHHL)also operate passenger services from Augustmuni to Kedarnath & Badrinath Dham twice in a year and also plans to further connect to important adjoining tourists/religious places in Uttaranchal such as Ghagharia,Hemkund Sahib,Shirdi from Mumbai/Pune in Maharashtra etc.In addition,some non-scheduled operators viz. Jagson Airlines,Deccan Aviation, Prabhatam Aviation,Himalayan Heliskiing, etc. are also carrying out operations with helicopters and M/s. Himalayan Heliskiing is engaged in adventure sports also.

(c) and (d):- Pawan Hans Helicopters Ltd. (PHHL) has plan to construct heliport at Delhi, NOIDA and Gurgaon,subject to allotment of land by the concerned State Govt. for providing short distance services by helicopters.

(e) and (f):- Pawan Hans Helicopters Ltd. (PHHL) has engaged the services of a Consultant to make Business Plan for Pawan Hans covering Evaluation of PHHL`s current position in Indian Helicopter Industry,developing a business strategy for next 10 years including requirement for financial and human resources and the funding plan.